

#10/BM  
10/10-7-02

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Timothy D. Evans et al. : Art Unit: 1731  
Application No.: 09/700,475 : Examiner: M. Steve Alvo  
Filed: January 11, 2001 :  
FOR: PEROXIDE, OXYGEN, AND : 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
PEROXIDE/OXYGEN BRIGHTENING OF : EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
CHEMICAL AND MIXED WASTE PULPS :

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO**  
**FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED APRIL 23, 2002**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR :

In response to the Final Office Action of April 23, 2002, please  
reconsider the above-identified application in view of the remarks provided below.

**REMARKS**

**Interview Summary**

Applicants appreciate the courtesy shown their representative, Pamela Politis, in a telephonic interview on September 3, 2002. The Examiner and the applicants' representative discussed features of the invention that distinguish over the cited art. Specifically, the conversion of percent weight composition to an elemental mass ratio was presented in a draft to facilitate a comparison of cited art to the claim language, which recites an elemental mass ratio range for Mg:SiO<sub>2</sub>.

In addition, the molecular weight of the silicates were discussed, as the instant claims recite that "at least 25% of silicates have a molecular weight of at least 10,000 Daltons." The Examiner indicated that the mass ratios and the molecular